of the user inserted in the hollow arbor **38**. The knife assembly **24** is thus actuated automatically at the end of each tape application upon retraction of the tape carrier **22** from its normal position (FIG. 1) to the upper position (FIG. 3).

The tape is firmly clamped under tension as cutoff is accomplished by counterclockwise rotation of the leading edge **64***a* of the knife member **64**, and the cut is made from the back side of the tape so that there is little possibility that the tape will adhere to the knife edge and a clean cut is thus insured. During the application of tape onto an external surface, the adhesive side of the tape is completely free of contact with any components of the dispenser and is amply guided from the tape roll **18** by the guide pin **66**, snubbing post **68**, and pressure pad **36**.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that the dispenser of the present application provides a new and unique means for applying pressure sensitive tape onto external surfaces. The dispenser has a minimum number of parts, all of which, except the spring **25**, can be fabricated of plastic material at low cost.

Although the present invention has been described with reference to a single illustrative embodiment thereof, it should be understood that numerous other modifications and embodiments can be devised by those skilled in the art that will fall within the spirit and scope of the principles of this invention.

What is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A dispenser for applying adhesive tape supplied from a roll onto an external surface comprising a body having a sidewall and a peripheral edge wall defining an opening on the bottom for dispensing said tape, pressure means along a forward edge of said opening for forcing tape against said surface upon bodily movement of said dispenser rearwardly therealong, tape carrier means rotatively supporting said tape roll in said body and movable toward and away from said opening, clamping means on said carrier having a forward edge for contacting the adhesive side of said tape remote from said roll and movable between a downward position adjacent said pressure means and an upward position remote therefrom toward said roll, snubbing post means on said body between said tape roll and said pressure means for supporting the nonadhesive side of said tape remote from said roll when said clamping means is moved to said upward position with said forward edge thereof forcing said tape against said snubbing post means in clamped relation, and cutter means on said body operatively interconnected with said carrier means for cutting said tape from the nonadhesive side between said snubbing post and said pressure means upon movement of said carrier means to said upward position.

2. The dispenser of claim **1** wherein said carrier means includes a hollow cylindrical arbor extending normal to said body sidewall for journaling said tape roll, said body sidewall having an elongated slot means defined therein extended upwardly of said bottom for supportnig said arbor therein for sliding movement toward and away from said opening.

3. The dispenser of claim **2** wherein said hollow arbor is dimensioned for receiving a finger of a human hand for manual retraction of said carrier from said downward to said upward position.

4. The dispenser of claim **2** including spring means for biasing said carrier means downwardly in said body toward said opening to said downward position.

5. The dispenser of claim **1** wherein said clamping means comprises an elongated, deflectable finger formed at the lower end of said carrier means projecting forwardly of an edge portion of said carrier toward said pressure means.

6. The dispenser of claim **5** wherein said forward edge of said clamping finger is spaced rearwardly of said pressure means when said carrier means is in said downward position and is movable therewith toward said snubbing post means to clamp said tape thereagainst upon upward retraction of said carrier means toward said upward position.

7. The dispenser of claim **6** wherein said forward edge of said clamping finger is movable away from said snubbing post means with said tape adhesively secured thereto remote from the tape end upon movement of said carrier means from said upward to said downward position.

8. The dispenser of claim **7** wherein the forward edge of said clamping finger slopes upwardly and rearwardly of the bottom of said body for guiding the extension of a short length of tape adhesively secured thereto forwardly and downwardly beneath said pressure means when said carrier means is returned to the downward position.

9. The dispenser of claim **5** wherein said finger is deflectable downwardly toward the bottom of said body when said carrier means is moved to said upward position forcing the forward edge of said clamping means to clamp said tape against said snubbing post.

10. A dispenser for applying adhesive tape supplied from a roll onto an external surface comprising a body having a sidewall and a peripheral edge wall defining an opening on the bottom for dispensing said tape, pressure means formed along a forward edge of said opening for forcing tape against said surface upon bodily movement of said dispenser rearwardly therealong, tape carrier means including a hollow arbor for rotatively supporting said tape roll in said body and mounted on said sidewall for movement toward and away from said opening, clamping means integrally formed on said carrier means and including a forwardly projecting, deflectable finger with a forward edge for contacting the adhesive side of said tape remote from said roll and movable between a downward position adjacent said pressure means and an upward position remote therefrom toward said roll, snubbing post means on said body spaced upwardly remote from said pressure means for supporting the nonadhesive side of said tape remote from said roll when said clamping means is moved to said upward position with said forward edge thereof forcing said tape against said snubbing post means in clamped relation, and cutter means on said body operatively interconnected with said carrier means for cutting said tape from the nonadhesive side between said snubbing post and said pressure means upon movement of said carrier means to said upward position.

11. The dispenser of claim **10** wherein said body sidewall is formed with an elongated slot therein extending upwardly of said bottom, and said arbor extends transversely through said slots and is guided thereby for sliding movement toward and away from said opening.

12. The dispenser of claim **11** wherein said hollow arbor is dimensioned for receiving a finger of a human hand for manual retraction of said carrier from said downward to said upward position.

13. The dispenser of claim **10** including spring means for biasing said carrier means downwardly in said body toward said opening to said downward position.

14. The dispenser of claim **10** including guide pin means on said body intermediate said tape roll and said pressure means for guiding the back side of said tape toward said opening.

15. The dispenser of claim **14** wherein said cutter means is mounted for pivotal movement on said guide pin means.

16. The dispenser of claim **15** wherein said cutter means includes a side plate journaled on said guide pin means and a cutting member at the edge of said plate outwardly of said guide pin means having a cutting edge movable in a circular path and parallel to said guide pin means.

17. The dispenser of claim **16** wherein the path of said edge crosses the path of tape extended between said snubbing post and said pressure pad at substantially a right angle.

18. The dispenser of claim **16** wherein said carrier unit